



April 2002



# SCHOOL FINANCE UPDATE

*A Monthly Newsletter Published by the School Budgeting and Accounting Division*

Montana Office of Public Instruction  
Box 202501  
Helena, MT 59620-2501

Phone (406) 444-4401  
FAX (406) 444-0509  
<http://www.opi.state.mt.us>

Linda McCulloch, State Superintendent

## GASB 34 Information

On April 25, OPI issued a letter containing preliminary information concerning implementation of GASB 34.

GASB 34 is a national accounting pronouncement that affects audited financial statement formats.

Clerks, Business Managers, and Superintendents should be sure to read the information and begin planning for the changes.

### 2002 School Budgeting & Accounting Workshops

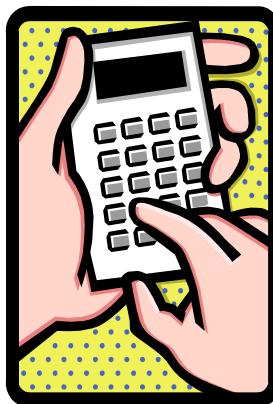
July 9 Kalispell	July 10 Missoula
July 11 Butte	July 16 Glasgow
July 17 Havre	July 18 Great Falls
July 23 Miles City	July 24 Billings

(See registration pamphlet in this mailing.)

## 2nd Semester Transportation Claims Sent This Month

TR-5 and TR-6 claim forms are included with this mailing. The treasurer received the 1st semester payment on March 25. You will receive the 2nd semester payment on June 15, assuming your completed claims are received by OPI by the May 24 due date. Late claims will be paid in September. Contact Maxine Mougeot, [mmougeot@state.mt.us](mailto:mmougeot@state.mt.us) or 444-3096.

## FY2001-02 Budget Amendments



Petitions for enrollment increase budget amendments are due to OPI by May 31, 2002. To assure the payment of additional Direct State Aid for FY2001-02, resolutions for enrollment increase type budget amendments must be received by the OPI by June 15.

Final budget amendments for all purposes must be adopted by June 30, 2002. Remember to send a copy of the final resolution to OPI. Contact Nancy Hall at 444-9852 or [nhall@state.mt.us](mailto:nhall@state.mt.us) if you need assistance.

## Budgeting/Accounting and Tuition ARMs Hearings on April 30

Comments are due to OPI either in writing by April 30 or at the hearing, which OPI will hold at various locations statewide via teleconference on April 30, 2002 at 10:00 AM (Investment Accounts and School Finance) and 10:30 AM (Tuition and Special Education). Call Bev Marlow, OPI Paralegal, at (406) 444-3172 if you have questions.

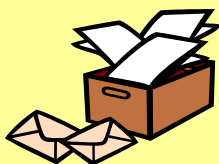
For questions or additional information about items in this newsletter, please contact:

Joan Anderson (406) 444-1960

[janderson@state.mt.us](mailto:janderson@state.mt.us)

## BPE Reviews Proposed Bus Standards

At the next Board of Public Education meeting on May 16 & 17, 2002, the Board is expected to adopt the standards and set an administrative rule hearing date to amend the ARM to reflect the new standards. Proposed standards are posted on the OPI website at [www.opi.state.mt.us](http://www.opi.state.mt.us) for your review. OPI contact: Maxine Mougeot, State Transportation Director, (406) 444-3096 or [mmougeot@state.mt.us](mailto:mmougeot@state.mt.us).



### Are Your Grants Done for the Year?

Please submit close-outs and final reports AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Thanks!!

## MAEFAIRS News

### New to MAEFAIRS – or - Just Need a Refresher??

MAEFAIRS Training will be held at OPI in Helena, July 31, 2002, 9 am to 4 pm. The session is free. Participants will complete a "hands-on" example using the MAEFAIRS system in the OPI computer training room. New MAEFAIRS users are highly encouraged to attend.

To register, contact: Nica Carte, (406) 444-4401 or [ncarte@state.mt.us](mailto:ncarte@state.mt.us).

### OPI Web Site Offers Answers Without a Password !

You can now access all the features of OPI's web site without using a password. Go to <http://www.opi.state.mt.us> and look for "Get

Answers." OPI provides a searchable knowledgebase of hundreds of questions and answers on all facets of school budgeting, accounting, school law, certification, payroll, accreditation – You name it!! Give Nica a call if you need help at (406) 444-4401.

In case you missed it....

### Technology and Flex Fund Info

Is available on the OPI website at [www.opi.state.mt.us](http://www.opi.state.mt.us) under <School Finance>.

### Indirect Cost Rate Applications for FY 2002-03 Grant Projects

Applications and information concerning indirect cost rates for FY 2002-03 were sent to all districts last month. Application forms are due back to OPI by May 31, 2002. Contact Jim Oberembt at 444-1257 or e-mail [joberembt@state.mt.us](mailto:joberembt@state.mt.us).

### School Finance Calendar (Electronic)

Please check the School Finance Calendar posted on the OPI website at [www.opi.state.mt.us](http://www.opi.state.mt.us). Click on the tab called "Calendars" and then click the "School Finance Calendar." We'll be glad to help you find it! OPI Contact: Nica Carte at (406) 444-4401 or [ncarte@state.mt.us](mailto:ncarte@state.mt.us).

**\$\$ OPI Payments Coming in May 2002 \$\$**

**\*\* 2nd Payment of HB 124 School Block Grant AND**

**\*\* 2nd Payment of Guaranteed tax Base (GTB) Funding**